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Salomón Praktins - Hotel Sevilla.

RETURN TO CIA
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FOIA Doc. No. 1209-440

(4) memo for the record 25 Nov 1963 by Birch D. O'Neal.

A 9:10 A.M. Papish called & and stated that he wanted to be sure we didn't have any additional information concerning Ruby. "I advised him that we had checked our records, including fnu's, and on the basis of the information we had concerning Subject which had been provided by him (24 November) we have no information relating to him."

A 9:20 Papish called again & said after search at FBI. "there was no indication that he has been out of the United States or that he is a member of any particular political or subversive group. He stated that there was some indication that he may have been in Cuba in 1959 while we still had an embassy there, and there was some information that he allegedly visited a night club. Mr. Papish pointed out, however, that this would have been entirely consistent with his known activities in the night club business. He said that the possibility of his being in Cuba should be considered with a "big question mark."

"I reminded Papish that we had checked through the Immigration ~~&~~ Service on the tourist card record in the Mexican Immigration in Nuevo Laredo and that we had had a response that they were unable to develop any information concerning his departure on ~~26~~ September and re-entry on 3 October.

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I advised him that we had not received a response from a request to Customs Service with regard to such departure and entry. Mr. Parish stated that the Bureau was looking into this matter and would keep me informed. I indicated that I would not press the matter further with the Customs Service. He is to keep us informed."

742 862

(5) memo 1-7-64 to CIA from Hoover.

Mr. Carlos Villa, 1450 Coral Way, Miami furnished a letter on 12-21-63. Letter had been forwarded to a friend of his, Jose Antonio Juan. Mr. Juan received letter from son in Cuba.

In letter "It is known here that Rubenstein was here a little less than a year ago visiting a Mr. Pranski," dealing in tourist articles owner of shop on Prado street between Almazas and Trocadero opposite the Sevilla Biltmore."

For your information the Bureau has developed no info that Ruby ever visited Cuba, except on one occasion in 1959 when he visited there briefly on a vacation trip.

(6) memo for James Angleton 1-9-64 memo received

from [AMROUT-1] From [John H. Sherwood] 03 FOB Doc No 1213-1128

Attached is translation of memo sent to Carlos Marquez Sterling [] have a copy to [AMROUT-1] an SAS/EDE asset, who passed it on to us.

Sr. Eulio Pereira (Brigadier of Giron) informs that Ruby was in Havana a yr ago to see Praskin. Info received by Brigadier of Brigade 2506,

Eulio Pereira (Eulio B. Pereira Accosta)

DPRB 12 March 1967, Gral. Carrillo Las Villas.
AOI-298242 Subj:

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No SAS traces on Prastin

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Later suggests Bureau interview Pereira —

He is living at 821 SW 2nd St, Miami, FL.

Includes interview of Pereira - by FBI.

⑦ SAS Dispatch from JMWAVE.

Info received from AMSPELL

AMSPPELL reports the letter was sent airmail, postmarked 28 Dec 1963 & sent to fictitious name, Sra. Juana Barreiros. Received 13 Jan 1963.

Allegation made by sister-in-law of AMSPPELL,
Graziella RUBIO y Rivera.

What is a sensitive document Input Record.

⑧ Document Transfer & crm Reference.

"Sometime around May 64 I was given 2 photographs by a minister who I met through a mutual friend. The photograph shows Ruby and Oswald together.

100-300-017

DB C-04902

17 Jan. 68

FBI

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9- memo dated Nov 26, 1963 Document No. 1210-1126 for FOIA review.

subject: Ruby

1210-1126

By: Birch D. O'Neal.

checked RID files on Jack Ruby, also known as Leon Rubenstein. Revealed that John Reed Gorman was investigated in 1951, 1952 & 1953. Paul Crouch advised FBI that Jack Rubenstein, "Director, Young Communist League in 1929, who could be reached through the National Office of the Textile Workers' Union of America, New York" & his wife, Marlon Rubenstein, ~~who~~ might have info on Gorman.

10- memo for Chief, CI (ICG) 2 Dec 1963 subj: Jack Rubenstein

~~Re:~~ From [Stephen C. Milllett, Jr.] FOIA Doc. No 1212-1127

1P. Reliable source reported that J. Rubenstein born in 1905 Polana, resident of N.Y., visited Israel from 17 May 1962 to 7 June 1962 with his wife Minnie.

11- same memo as (no 6) above: complete quote from letter

"The Brigadier of Giron, Sr. Euclidio Pereira, who is in constant communication with Cuba, informs the General Delegate of the movimiento Patriótico Cuba Libre, ... news of great importance.

1. Notify the Pentagon of this fact: Ruby, the assassin of Oswald was in Havana a year ago. He is a friend and customer of a citizen

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named Praskin, owner or manager of a novelty shop for tourists located between Animas y Trocadero, Paseo del Prado, in front of the Hotel Sevilla."

"This information received in Miami, as noted at the beginning of this memorandum, were received by Brigadier of Brigade 2506, Eudio Pereira, who is ready to verify them New York, 29 December 1963."

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(12) memo for Hoover from Angleton - subj: Jack Ruby.
X.A.A2-22818. 30 Jan 1964. States that the Agency has received a report from a source to the effect that Ruby was in Havana in late 1962 or in early 1963. Relates Eudio Bernardo Pereira Acosta story. D location of Pereira. Suggests FBI interview Pereira.

(13) ~~FBI~~ Interview of Pereira - 2-7-1964.

Eudio stated he was a prisoner in Cuba after B.C.P.P. Showed a letter dated 12-3-63 from Havana containing the Ruby being in ~~Cuba~~ story. Pereira had no knowledge as to the original source of info. Letter was from a member of the Cuban Red Cross who he corresponds with.

(14) Dispatch @ attached 2 p. bulletin & envelop ~~to~~ from Cuba.

Dispatch to Chief SAs from JMWAVE. ~~28 JAN 64~~
2/13/64.

See ~~R~~ Ref: WAVE-1283, 29 January 1964.

No ["AMSPOLL"] reports the letter was sent airmail, postmarked 28 December 1963, and sent to a fictitious

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[] name (Sra. Juana Barreiros) and received in the
[] A.M.SPELL P.O. Box 168, main station, Miami, Florida.
DRE [] further reported that the sender's name
[] appearing on the envelope (Alicia Cardoso)
is also false. The letter was received on 13 January 1964.
"2. The correspondence from Cuba referred to in
paragraph three of Reference was not obtainable
according to [A.M.SPELL]. The latter stated the letter
was received from Cuba by airmail, addressed to
[] AMLUNCH-1, who was not willing to cooperate in
handing the letter over to [A.M.SPELL]. Reportedly, the
information contained in the letter reached [ODENSY,]
who also asked the recipient's cooperation. The latter
delivered only a small portion of the letter to [ODENSY,]
where the information appeared, of which [A.M.SPELL] submitted
the following resume, made by the recipient of the
letter.

(no 201)

"Salomon Pratkins owned a tourist store
located across the street from the Sevilla
Hotel, in Prado street in Havana. Ruby
was a habitual visitor at this store
while he stayed in Havana in 1962 and
1963. Ruby flew to Havana from Mexico
City."

3- Also attached a copy of story released by [A.M.SPELL] on
29 Jan 1964 to wire services, Miami News.

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4- AM LUNCH-1 was contacted by JMWAVE on 4 Feb 1964 & confirmed data in para 2 above, "but said the person Ruby visited was named Praskin and that Fnu Praskin owns a house on Prado Street between Animas and Trocadero, across from the Sevilla Hotel, Havana. AM LUNCH-1 said the letter was from his sister-in-law, Graziella Rubio y Rivera (see UFGA-9868 para 3 and UFGA-10572, para 4) and that he had turned the letter over to FBI. There are no JMWAVE traces on Salomon Praktins or Fnu Praskin.

5- FBI confirmed on 5 Feb 1964 that AM LUNCH-1 had offered them the complete letter, but that they took only the portion concerning Ruby. FBI also confirmed that AM LUNCH-1 identified the writer of the letter as noted above, and told them the story about Ruby's visit to Havana was hearsay on the part of his sister-in-law."

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Review of 201 File on U.S. Citizen Jan 1975.

Review form on Ruby file.

Ruby's file categorized as "counterintelligence case (i.e., involving a foreign ~~or~~ intelligence or security service). OI code AS.

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VOL 2

① Cable - to Mexico City 19 March 1964.

"Melvin M. Belli, traveling to Mexico."

From: Richard Helms

Unit: DDP

CITE DIR 08574

Ext 5353

Date 18 MAR 64.

2- FBI Report 4-6-64

re Radio program @ Paul Bethel & Stanley Ross.

p.3 - "Bethel said that "we," and when he said "we" he was not speaking for the Citizens Committee at that point because they had to be checked out carefully before "we" would issue it at all -- but "we" had been notified by people whose judgment "we" trust that Ruby had been in Cuba several times after the break in relations, and the only way that this man could get in there, of course, was clandestinely. He then asked who would be interested in getting him into Cuba clandestinely. Certainly not friends of ours. He added that this information was obtained from several sources.

p.6 - Bethel stated in later interview by FBI that "Ruby trips to Cuba might have had gambling connections centered around the Hotel Capri, in Havana, Cuba, whose front man was supposed to be George Raft, the movie actor. His sources advised that Ruby had been in Cuba either two or three times, subsequent to the break in relations, in 1959 or 1960." One of two sources whom he

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"considered reliable" is Jose Lanuza. Bethel said Lanuza could furnish info re the background of LHO and of his efforts to infiltrate DRE.

Second source was Salvador Lew, known as Dr. Lew, who is with a Miami legal firm. Lew can be reached through Miami phone FR 1-5606.

Another source - Dr. Fernando Carandi, Miami.

(3) Doc. Transfer & cross Ref. card.

"Per Doc subj. reported in contact James Kelley Lowe and German born wife Ingrid. Ingrid identified as sou. agent. Her husband James former USAF Intel officer. Lowes were in company of Ruby and Lee Oswald some 6 to 8 weeks prior to assassination of Pres.

201-289249

DBB-21509

3 Sept 65

FBI Document

(4) Doc. Transfer & cross Ref. card.

"It was understanding of source that Garrison had been conducting exhaustive search to locate man named from Dmire / p/ supposed to have traveled to Galveston, Texas about time of assassination there met with Ruby and Ferrie.

DBB-82786 10 JUNE 67 FBI

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⑤ Doc Transfer & Cross Ref.

"Sometime around May 64 I was given 2 photographs by a minister who I met through a mutual friend. The photographs shows Ruby and Oswald together."

FBI doc. 17 Jan 1968.

⑥ memo for FBI from Angleton 6-19-67 FOIA 1017-1129

Mr. ^{Jack N.} Rogers talked @ a N.O. rep of Agency.

Rogers has spoken @ Garrison & staff. "He has been told by a member of Garrison's staff that Garrison has definite proof that Ruby was once hospitalized in New Orleans, that Oswald visited him in the hospital, that they were there engaged in a homosexual act, that they were caught, and that Oswald was arrested.

⑦ FBI report Sept 3, 1965 re James Kelley Lowe JS-Russia.

On August 26, 1965 ~~an~~ source stated that James Kelley Lowe advised informant that he was a former intelligence officer in the U.S. Air Force, and that his German-born wife, Ingrid Lowe, nee Bernhauser, was a Soviet Agent. Lowe indicated he met his wife in Austria in 1962 and subsequently married her in Dallas, Texas in 1961.

Lowe stated he & his wife met LHO and Jack Ruby at Ruby's place of business some 6 to 8 wks prior to the assassination.

On August 31, 1965 Ft. Worth PD advised Lowe had

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been arrested on Aug 8, 1965 - illegal possession of dangerous drugs. On Sept 1, 1965 Lowe refused to comment to FBI under advice of counsel.

(8) WAUE 1283 = cable from to miami dated 30 Jan 64

1 - "29 Jan Blue Streak edition miami News carried full news item titled "Ruby visited Cuba -- Exiles Say." Jack Ruby, killer of President Kennedy's accused assassin, has visited Castro's Cuba, exile group here charged today.

Ruby flew from Mexico City to Havana latter part Dec 62 on Mexicana flight, said spokesman for Cuban DRE. DRE is organization which first told "Students said they first learned of Ruby's Havana visit several weeks ago, but delayed making any statement until complete check had been made with their sources on island. According to underground communications, Ruby stayed in Havana until early January 62, frequenting a tourist store owned by man named, Solomon Praktins. Store was located on El Prado across street from Sevilla Biltmore Hotel...."

2 - [DRE had first reported this to WAUE on 17 Jan.]

3 - "DRE also alleged above was confirmed by Cuban exile (not identified) who had received letters containing information on this matter."

WAUE requested DRE provide originals of mimeograph bulletin & letters plus identity of recipients & senders. Despite promise to do so,

[DRE has not yet provided.]